

Jan → Mar 244

Philip became emperor early in 244 between Jan & Mar 244. His first concern was to consolidate his hold on power by returning to Rome, & to do this quickly, he agreed to peace terms with the Persian king SHAPUR. I Philip agreed to make a down payment of 500,000 denarii, in addition to an annual indemnity. Once this was settled, Philip placed his brother Gaius Julius Priscus in overall charge of the

seventeen provinces and returned to Rome. There
he announced that GORDIAN III had died of
illness and organized a state funeral and divine
hymns for GORDIAN III

(This was not true, for Philip murdered
GORDIAN IV)

Feb 244

Accession of Philip the Arab to the
Throne

His wife was Marcia Otacilia
Severa.

Children: Son Marcus Julius
Philipus (Junia)

244-249

1912 Dates J-BK

Goths invaded the Roman
province of Dacia.

244-249 AD

PHILIPPUS ARABS
was emperor

244-249

1912 Dates J-BK

PHILIPPUS ARABS, Peace
with Persia,

Thousandth anniversary of
foundation of Rome was
celebrated in 248

MOESIAN and PANNONIAN
legions revolt and proclaim one
of their officers emperor.

Feb 244

With the death of Tiberius, the heart seems to have gone out of the campaign. Philip the Arab used his position not to further the expedition but to undermine Gordian's position & foment mutiny among the troops. Supply difficulties and military reverses were blamed on the young emperor's incompetence, and Philip cleverly manipulated the situation to have himself appointed regent. Gordian, now 19 yrs.

old, found his position increasingly intolerable,
and in camp near CIRCESUM, he called
upon the soldiers to choose between himself
and Philip. The gambler failed: the soldiers
voted for Philip, and Sordian III was killed.
A monument was raised to him near the spot
where he died, on the banks of the EUPHRATES
some 20 mi from CIRCESUM. His remains,
however, were brought back for burial to Rome:
where the senate proclaimed his deification.

Feb-244

Gordian III was murdered
near CIRCESUM in
mesopotamia in Feb-244

244-249

Goths

King Ostrogotha of the Goths
(both Visigoths & Ostrogoths) was supposedly
a contemporary of the emperor Philip
the Arab (244-249)

16 men were given or claimed the title of Augustus (emperor) and none of them died an entirely natural death.

Some were killed in battle, others were murdered by their own supporters, and at least one died of the plague:

The period ends with the Roman empire at its nadir, and a Roman emperor dying in

slavery among the Persians

244-249

Philip the Arab was Emperor